

Greetings Gator Nation!

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year. Last year was truly a unique experience for our entire community. After a much needed break, our rejuvenated staff is back and ready to provide your child with an amazing educational experience. We are excited to continue our school's mission of: *building a collaborative culture focused on challenging and engaging work for our students.*

The mission of our school fits very well with this year's theme where we will focus on being a part of a **TEAM** - **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore. This is especially true as our focus will be based on the following points: 1) a team is a special type of group where the sum is always greater than the parts. 2) Effective teams always lead to better outcomes. And 3) working as a team encourages personal and collective growth. There is a great saying the US Navy SEALs use - "Individuals play the game, but teams always beat the odds." We hope you will help us reinforce this throughout the year as you too are a part of our team!

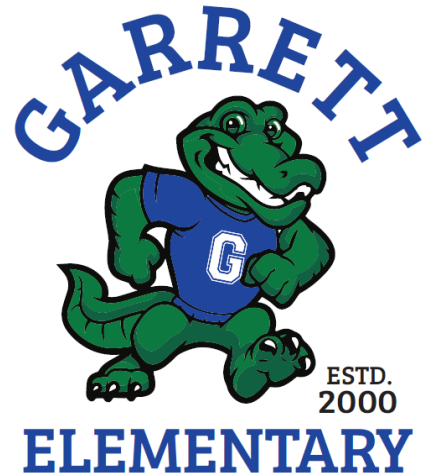
Below is some important information for you as we head into opening our school. Please read the information carefully as opening day gets closer.

First Day of School and School Hours for Students:

The first day of school for all 1st-5th graders is **Monday, August 29th**. *If you have a kinder student, please remember they are on a staggered entry schedule for the first week of school. Reference the postcard we mailed out for your child's specific start date.* Student hours are 7:50 A.M. to 2:35 P.M. School doors open at 7:30 A.M. **Parents should not drop off students before 7:30 A.M. as there is no supervision for their students unless their** child is registered in the Gator Island Morning Care Program. Upon arriving, students will report directly to their classroom unless they need breakfast.

Breakfast:

Breakfast (and lunch) are no longer free for all students. If you would like your child to eat meals at school, you will either need to put money on their online account, or you will need to secure a free/reduced lunch status by filling out the required forms. *If you completed this paperwork in the spring, this would cover your child for the first 30 days only. You will need to complete a new form for the 2022-2023 school year.* If you have any questions, please reach out to our front office. Students wishing to eat breakfast will report to the cafeteria upon arrival in the morning before going to their classroom. We will have supervision in place each morning to support this transition.



Bus Transportation:

If your child is eligible for bus transportation, your child's bus number, bus stop location, and time of AM and PM stops will be available during Open House. Note that the bus stop times ***may need to be adjusted*** by the Transportation Department in the first few weeks of school or throughout the school year due to updates and route changes. Thank you, in advance, for your patience and flexibility. If you have questions or need to change your child's transportation, you can contact us at 919-563-2088. Any changes made after August 4th may impact your child's initial riding start date.

We look forward to greeting the entire Gator Nation at **Open House on Thursday, August 25th, from 4:00-6:00 P.M.** This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to meet your child's teacher and visit their new classroom!

Welcome back to the Swamp!

Dan Habla, Principal

Greetings Gator Nation!

Welcome Kindergators to the 2022-2023 school year. After a much needed break, our staff is back and ready to provide your child with an amazing educational experience. We are excited to continue our school's mission of: *building a collaborative culture focused on challenging and engaging work for our students.*

The mission of our school fits very well with this year's theme where we will focus on being a part of a **TEAM** - **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore. This is especially true as our focus will be based on the following points: 1) a team is a special type of group where the sum is always greater than the parts. 2) Effective teams always lead to better outcomes. And 3) working as a team encourages personal and collective growth. There is a great saying the US Navy SEALs use - "Individuals play the game, but teams always beat the odds." We hope you will help us reinforce this throughout the year as you too are a part of our team!

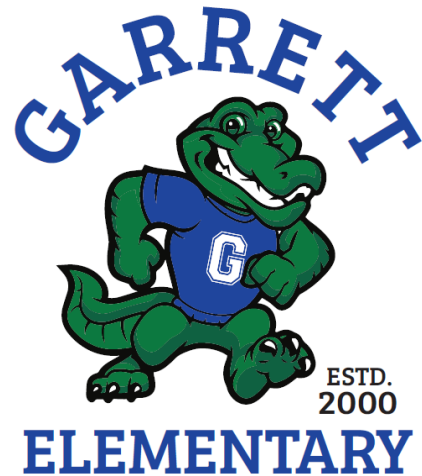
Below is some important information for you as we head into opening our school. Please read the information carefully as opening day gets closer.

First Day of School and School Hours for Students:

Kindergarten students will have staggered entry for the first 4 days of school, *please remember to reference the postcard we mailed out for your child's specific start date.* **After attending their staggered entry day, ALL Kindergarten students will report to school on September 2nd. We will have a Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, September 1st from 4:00PM to 6:00PM.** Kindergarten parents will be able to walk students into the building until September 9th with varying drop off points in the building. As mentioned in orientation, Kiss-n-Go will help your child build independence in walking to their classroom. **Parents should not drop off students before 7:30 A.M. as there is no supervision for their students unless their** child is registered in the *Gator Island* Morning Care Program. Upon arriving, students will report directly to their classroom until September 6th. If a student needs breakfast beginning September 6th, they will report to the cafeteria before going to the classroom. Parents will not be allowed to stay for breakfast in the cafeteria. Staff will help students transition to their classroom after breakfast.

Breakfast:

Breakfast (and lunch) are no longer free for all students. If you would like your child to eat meals at school, you will either need to put money on their online account, or you will need to secure a free/reduced lunch status by filling out the required forms. Kindergarten families will



need to complete a free and reduced lunch form for the 2022-2023 school year. If you have any questions, please reach out to our front office. Students wishing to eat breakfast will report to the cafeteria upon arrival after September 6th, the morning before going to their classroom. We will have supervision in place each morning to support this transition.

Bus Transportation:

If your child is eligible for bus transportation, your child's bus number, bus stop location, and time of AM and PM stops will be available during Open House. Note that the bus stop times **may need to be adjusted** by the Transportation Department in the first few weeks of school or throughout the school year due to updates and route changes. Kindergarten students are not to be left at the bus stop alone. Parents or guardians are required to receive students off the bus. If no one is at the bus stop to receive the child, they will be brought back to the school to be picked up by the parent or guardian. Thank you, in advance, for your patience and flexibility. If you have questions or need to change your child's transportation, you can contact us at 919-563-2088. Any changes made after August 4th may impact your child's initial riding start date.

We look forward to greeting our Kindergartners at **Open House on Thursday, September 1st, from 4:00-6:00 P.M.** This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to meet your child's teacher and visit their new classroom!

Welcome to the Swamp!

Dan Habla, Principal